

## Notice of Sources Sought

**Solicitation:** NSBF-NSS-JBK-2004-RFP-05

**NAICS Code:** 532411

**Business Category Restrictions (SUBJECT TO CHANGE):** None—available to all size businesses.

**Subject:** "Dry" Aircraft Lease

**Details:** **(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)** Interested Sources Sought. The National Scientific Balloon Facility to issue best value RFP to "dry" lease Normal Category aircraft for FAA Part 91 tracking, termination, transportation, and logistics of following: Cessna 441 - Conquest I or II; Beechcraft Model C90, E90, F90 - King Air. Operations may include use outside the United States. Base lease begins 1 APR 05 for GFY 05-06 w/3ea 1 year options for GFY 07, GFY 08 and GFY 09. **Annual period of operation is 1 April thru 30 November during each lease year.** Government equipment to be installed during the period 1 MAR thru 30 MAR 05.

Otherwise, Contractor can use the aircraft for its own purposes on a non-interference basis during the balance of year. Annual flight hours are expected to be approximately 175 hours.

The aircraft furnished under the subject lease to be delivered to NSBF with a current U.S. Certificate of Airworthiness, all systems in full working order, and all inspections current as specified under the section below titled "Operations and Maintenance." Operational equipment shall include as a minimum the following general systems:

- Full, IFR certified, dual nav/comm suite
- IFR certified, panel mounted Global Positioning System (GPS)
- Weather radar
- Storm scope (optional)
- Automatic flight control system
- Terrain Avoidance Warning System (TAWS)

The aircraft furnished under the subject lease will be operated by NSBF and maintained under coordination and scheduling by the NSBF under Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR), Part 91. It will not be used for any purpose that would require operations under FAR, Part 135. Aircraft maintenance shall be at the expense of the Lessor. It will be delivered to NSBF with all inspections current. No scheduled phase inspections will be due within 175 hours during each annual period of performance. The aircraft will be in compliance prior to aircraft delivery with all Airworthiness Directives, and mandatory SB's that have been published, or will be published prior to the commencement of each annual period of performance.

**Government Installed Equipment:** The following equipment will be furnished and installed at NSBF expense:

- One removable balloon tracking and termination telemetry station (Seat Pack)

- One telemetry receiving antenna on top of fuselage
- One permanent satellite telephone system (Motorola Air Sat 1, with antenna)
- Two permanent UHF antennas (one on top of fuselage/one underneath)
- One permanent, specialized, dedicated VHF antenna on bottom side of fuselage.
- One multi-station intercommunication system.
- Additional power sources and circuit protection breakers or switches as required.

The Seat Pack will be constructed as to be installed using the existing seat rail tracks. All other modifications required to install the government furnished equipment will be accomplished by appropriately certified personnel per FAR 43.13, Parts 1 and 2; and documented on FAA Form 337's. Other alterations or modifications to the aircraft may be made as mutually agreed. The Seat Pack will be installed by NSBF at the beginning of each annual period of performance, and removed by NSBF at the completion of each annual period of performance. The remaining equipment, including antennae, circuit breakers, connectors, racks, and cables, will remain with the aircraft during the period between annual periods of performance, unless removed and reinstalled at the Contractor's expense.

On completion of the final term of the lease, NSBF, at its expense, will remove all government furnished equipment installed by NSBF. The aircraft will be repaired and returned to service in an airworthy condition in accordance with all applicable FARs and any applicable references in Advisory Circular 43.13-1B/2A, for aircraft inspection, repair, and alternation. The return to service will be performed using an FAA licensed airframe technician and DER generated approved data on FAA Form 8110, and referenced on FAA Form 337.

**Insurance.** NSBF, a part of New Mexico State University, shall obtain operational insurance and cross-indemnify the Contractor. NSBF reimbursement for aircraft hull and property damage coverage will not exceed a reasonable replacement cost of the aircraft as furnished. A single limit liability coverage of at least Five Million U.S. Dollars will be provided. NSBF and New Mexico State University will be named as additional insured, and evidence of coverage will be furnished as required. All specifications with regard to aircraft loss or damage, and insurance requirements not herein specified will be as specified in the subject lease.

**Best Value Criteria (Subject to Change)** – Aircraft condition, equipment, and capabilities; (2) specific lease terms and conditions; (3) lease cost; (4) operational availability; (5) expected aircraft operating costs.

**Procurement Schedule:**

- RFP **NSBF-JBK-2004-RFP-05** to issue 8 June 2004. Publication of Notice of Solicitation in newspaper and on SUBNet and on website.
- Proposals due 15 July 2004.
- Evaluation completed by 15 Aug 2004 and discussions leading to award with one or more offerors completed by 31 October 2004.

**Questions and Comments:** Forward by email to Mr. Jamie B. Kraft by email to [purchasing@nsbf.nasa.gov](mailto:purchasing@nsbf.nasa.gov); fax to (903)723-8054.